AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 9, 17, 20, 21, 22, 24, and 25. Claims 1, 2, 5-11, 13-15 and 17-26 remain pending and are submitted for further consideration.

1.   (Currently Amended) A system for assisting a user in selecting an operating system for use on an electronic device, said system comprising:

an electronic device configured to store, display, and process information under a selectable one of a plurality of operating systems, the plurality of operating systems being stored on a user rewriteable storage media; and

program code running on said electronic device, the program code configured to perform a method comprising:

providing a graphical user interface on a display, said display comprising a list of the plurality of operating systems available to run on said electronic device;

providing an activatible control mechanism for selecting one of the plurality of operating systems displayed on said list;

setting a default operating system for a load utility installed on said electronic device to correspond to the operating system selected with the activatible control; and

automatically inducing the electronic device to reboot for operation under the selected operating system, wherein the selected operating system remains the default operating system, absent further user selection.

2.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the program code further implements a mechanism to allow a user to set a duration of time comprising a time out period during which the load utility pauses and allows a user to specify an operating system other than the default operating system.

3.   (Cancelled)

4.   (Cancelled)

5.   (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein a change of the default operating system causes a file containing settings for a boot menu to be modified wherein the file specifies the operating system selected.

6.   (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the program code additionally comprises a mechanism for uninstalling the program code.

7.   (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the program code additionally comprises a mechanism for reinstalling the program code.

8.   (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein an installation routine for installing the program code surveys the electronic device and determines the presence of operating systems available on said electronic device and the partition on which the operating system resides.

9.   (Currently Amended) A method of launching an operating system of choice, comprising:

displaying a graphical user interface on a display, said display listing a plurality of available operating systems stored on a user rewriteable storage media;

providing a selection mechanism for selecting an operating system of choice;

selecting an operating system of choice via said selection mechanism; and

setting a default operating system for a load utility installed on an electronic device to the operating system selected with the selection mechanism, said default operating system automatically loading by default upon an automatically induced restart of the electronic device when the operating system selected differs from a previously selected operating system and wherein the selected default operating system remains the default operating system, absent further selection.

10.   (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising setting a duration of time comprising a time out period during which the load utility pauses and allows a user to specify an operating system other than the default operating system.

11.   (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising restarting the electronic device in response to an input made via an input device calling for the electronic device to restart.

12.   (Cancelled)

13.   (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising providing a mechanism for uninstalling program code that performs displaying, providing, selecting, and setting.

14.   (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising providing a mechanism for reinstalling program code that performs the steps of displaying, providing, selecting, and setting.

15.   (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising surveying the electronic device and determining the presence of operating systems available on said electronic device and the partition on which the operating system resides.

16.   (Cancelled)

17.   (Currently Amended) A graphical user interface for an electronic device displayed by a boot selection program for selecting an operating system, said graphical user interface comprising:

a first display region of a graphical user interface listing a plurality of available operating systems stored on a user rewriteable storage media of the electronic device; and

a second display region of the graphical user interface including a user activatible control to select one of the available operating systems, wherein a newly selected operating system is automatically loaded by the electronic device when the newly selected operating system differs from a previously selected operating system and wherein the selected default operating system remains the default operating system, absent further selection.

18.   (Original) The user interface of claim 17, further comprising a third display region for initiating a command to restart the electronic device, said third region including user activitible controls to specify when the electronic device should restart.

19.   (Original) The user interface of claim 17, wherein the interface is displayed upon clicking an icon of a boot.

20.   (Currently Amended) A programmed electronic device for selecting an operating system comprising:

a user rewriteable memory for storing executable program code including a plurality of operating systems;

a processor for executing executable program code stored in said memory; and

executable program code stored in said memory responsive to a command to select an operating system from a displayed list of a the plurality of available operating systems displayed on a graphical user interface so as to set a the selected operating system as a default operating system of a loaded utility resident on the programmed electronic device and wherein the executable program code automatically induces the electronic device to restart under the selected operating system when the command indicates a change in the selected operating system and wherein the selected default operating system remains the default operating system, absent further selection.

21.   (Currently Amended) A method of specifying an operating system of choice, comprising:

       displaying a graphical user interface on a display, said display listing a plurality of available operating systems; and

       setting a default operating system for a load utility installed on an electronic device to the operating system selected with the graphical user interface, said default operating system automatically loading the default operating system following a time out period and remaining the default operating system, absent further selection.

22.   (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 21, further comprising setting a duration of time comprising [[a]] the time out period during which the load utility pauses and allows a user to specify the default operating system.

23.   (Original) The method of Claim 21, further comprising specifying an operating system of choice on an electronic device and comprising restarting the electronic device in response to an input made via an input device calling for the electronic device to restart.

24.   (Currently Amended) A system for specifying an operating system of choice, comprising:

       means for displaying an graphical user interface on a display, said graphical user interface identifying a plurality of available operating systems; and

       means for setting a default operating system for a load utility installed on an electronic device to the operating system selected with the graphical user interface, said default operating system automatically loading the default operating system following a time out period and remaining the default operating system, absent further selection.

25.   (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 24, further comprising means for setting a duration of time comprising [[a]] the time out period during which the load utility pauses and allows a user to specify the default operating system.

26.   (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 25, further comprising means for restarting the electronic device in response to an input made via an input device calling for the electronic device to restart.